

**Life-Line Bulletin**

[Life-Line Bulletin](#)

**Main Menu**

- [Home Page](#)
- [Trustee Guidelines](#)
- [GA Reference Material](#)
- [Keyword Search](#)
- [Download Center](#)
- [Contact Administrator](#)

**San Diego, California - Fall 2016  
Information Section**

[San Diego Conference Info](#)

**Rolling Agenda**

- [San Diego Absentee Ballots](#)
- [Conference Bids](#)
- [Agenda Information](#)

[Submit An Agenda Item](#)

**BOT Committees**

- [Monthly Committee Reports](#)
- [Committee Data Updates](#)

- [Blue Book Revision](#)
- [BOR/BOT Revenue Review](#)
- [BOT Restructure](#)
- [Conference Oversight](#)
- [Digital Media](#)
- [Group Handbook Revision](#)
- [Hotline Implementation](#)
- [Hotline Files](#)
- [Intergroup](#)
- [International Relations](#)
- [Literature](#)
- [Pressure Relief](#)
- [Prison - Canada](#)
- [Prison - US](#)
- [Public Relations](#)
- [RSO](#)
- [Telephone Conference Call](#)
- [Trustee Election Guidelines](#)
- [Trustee Removal Merit Panel](#)
- [Trustee Website](#)
- [Video Meeting Format](#)

**International Areas**

- [Africa](#)
- [Australia](#)
- [Eastern Asia](#)
- [Europe](#)
- [Pacific Rim](#)
- [South America and Mexico](#)

[International Event Flyers](#)

**Trustee Line & Other Features**

- [Trustee Line Home Page](#)
- [Login For The Trustee Poll](#)
- [Trustee Poll](#)
- [Trustee Transition Roster](#)
- [>>Trustee Information Update<<](#)
- [Trustee Website Tutorial](#)
- [Area Event Flyers](#)
- [Local Area Questions & Answers](#)
- [Local Area Website Guidelines](#)

Select Language ▼

**Trustee Line for July 2016**

A PDF version of this issue to distribute to your rooms, or to print out for easier reading, will be available after 7/31/16.

**Questions and Answers Involving  
Individual BOT Committees**

Any GA member can contact the Chairs of the Committees listed below with any questions or concerns they might have. The Chairs will answer the emails and the resulting issues will be posted under each committee involved in the email. This will serve as help for other members, Intergroups or areas, who may be going through the same situations. The emails will not breach anonymity and will be redacted to make sure names and areas are not included in this section. You are also invited to click the individual committee links on the left margin, for more information.

1. [Blue Book Revision](#)
2. [BOR/BOT Revenue Review](#)
3. [Conference Oversight](#)
4. [Digital Media](#)
5. [Hotline Implementation](#)
6. [Intergroup](#)
7. [International Relations](#)
8. [Literature](#)
9. [Pressure Relief](#)
10. [Prisons - Canada](#)
11. [Prisons - US](#)
12. [Public Relations](#)
13. [RSO - Regional Service Offices](#)
14. [Telephone Meeting Conference Calls](#)
15. [Trustee Election Guidelines](#)
16. [Trustee Removal Merit Panel](#)
17. [Trustee Website](#)
18. [Video Meeting Format](#)

**Thoughts From The Trustees - Current  
and Past**

**Disclaimer - The Trustee Line is a function of the Board of Trustees of Gamblers Anonymous. It is intended solely as a forum for members of the Board of Trustees to share opinions on issues related to Gamblers Anonymous. Any postings in this or any other edition of the Trustee Line are not to be construed as the opinion of Gamblers Anonymous, as a whole. The publication of any items on the Trustee Line do not constitute an endorsement or statement of approval or acknowledgement by Gamblers Anonymous of what the contents are.**

The subjects listed below are themes that have been submitted by other Trustees. You may respond to any of them, or start an entirely new subject

Subjects that receive submissions from at least 13 different people, will trigger an email blast to all the current and past Trustees, signifying a 'Hot Topic Alert' on the Trustee Line.

Item	Subject	Last Entry	Entries
1.	<a href="#">Doing Our Best To Send New Members To Rooms That Don't Exist</a>	7/5 11:25 AM	2

2.	<a href="#">Responsibilities</a>	7/7 9:35 AM	2
----	----------------------------------	----------------	---

**Doing Our Best To Send New Members To Rooms That Don't Exist**

7/3/16 - 11:16 PM

Last month, I tried to light a fire under the otherwise sleeping group of 127 current Trustees, by throwing out some subjects that might have gotten others to speak their minds. One thing is clear, my objective was a virtual failure. So I will try once again with this topic.

We are very close to the launch of a mobile app for locating meetings in the US. Although it is still in test phase, it was released for inspection of the Trustees for the Spring Trustee meeting in Phoenix this past May. If any of the Trustees had an Android phone, they got the opportunity to test the app. As the saying goes... "Be careful what you wish for."

Interestingly enough, there were many downloads done by the Trustees and that's when the problems started. The Trustees started using the app and many found that rooms were listed that have been closed. There were others that had time changes and the information had not be changed on the site.

The problem is that this meeting locator app works off the database kept by the ISO. Another saying is... "Garbage in – garbage out." That is the crux of this posting. The ISO can only work with the information it gets. If meetings close or change their times and that information is not reflected to the ISO, then the ISO website is not updated. That also means this new pending app will be providing incorrect information to those who need it the most – the new members. This is a clear focus on Question 18.

So a serious problem has been identified and we currently are in dire need of a serious and immediate remedy. Who has the responsibility to keep the information flow correct for the ISO? Is it the trusted servants of the rooms? Is it the local area Intergroups? Is it the Trustees?

I will be submitting an agenda item for San Diego, to hopefully have the BOT Chair form a committee to deal with this issue. It has to become a priority for the Board of Trustees. Time and time again, I hear from some of the members of our Fellowship that the BOT does little if anything to carry the message. I take offense at such statements from people who have no remedies or ideas for carrying the message. However, for whatever we offer those who have a desire to stop gambling, we can't actively sabotage those people by sending them to rooms that have closed or changed their meeting times.

It's time for the very thing that the 'complainers' try to convince others that we don't need – structure. This committee would have to come up with the procedures to ensure that meeting information is as correct and up to date as it can be. It would be great for those who read this posting to come up with some ideas on how to do this, or for you to further highlight how severe this problems really is.

Two heads are better than one, five are better than two, etc. Let's make it happen.

David M. – Area 12, New Jersey

7/5/16 - 11:25 AM

The answer is obvious. The Intergroup is the one unifying entity that all meeting groups share in a given geographical region. I am presuming each Intergroup has a recording secretary, a corresponding secretary, or both. All it takes is a single email from them to the ISO to keep their database fluid. If an Intergroup cannot perform this one SIMPLE task, I would question whether we shouldn't, instead, be examining the structure and function of the Intergroup as the overarching issue. In fact, if this is as bad as David says it is, I wonder what else the ISO is not finding out about.

Jack R. - Area 1A, Orange County, California

7/4/16 - 2:13 PM

Topics & Responses to Trustee Line in 2016:

From January to June 2016 there were 25 topics posted to the Trustee Line that stimulated a total of 34 responses, 1.36 average responses for each topic.

Only 13 members provided comments of that number 4 members supplied 19 comments. Thus, out of all current and past Trustees only a small percentage have suggested or commented for the first 6 months of 2016.

David M's July topic regarding updating Meeting addresses & times for the ISO master meeting schedule and for the proposed app is of paramount importance. This is a top priority subject. Will you as a current Trustee accept the responsibility and dig for the answer and supply the proper parties with correct information this week?

Who will serve the Fellowship if it does not start at the Trustee level?

Bill B. - Area 6, Southern FL

---

7/7/16 - 9:35 AM

This post is added to Bill B's posting, but it is also a follow-up comment to David M's item this month and the additional topics David posted in June. The "A" in GA is standing more and more for apathy rather than anonymous. The stats listed regarding the Trustee line postings for the first six months of this year are appalling. Of all of the 127 current trustees, how many actually read what people submit? There are hundreds of others in the fellowship who are former trustees. Do any of these members follow the submissions?

Our fellowship is the core of each member's recovery. When in action, a person ignores all responsibility. In recovery, a member in GA has the opportunity to replace the negative behavior with a commitment to help others overcome their addiction. Serving as an officer at the room level, participating as an Intergroup representative, and contributing as a trustee, help prevent a return to the hell of action. Setting a good example for new members is critical.

Sharing ideas regarding important issues on the Trustee Line should be important to all trustees--both past and present. Let us hear from many people each month. Contribute your thoughts to the discussions to help our vital fellowship help those who are still out there suffering. Ask yourself a key question. Am I only abstaining from gambling, or am I in the beautiful state of recovery from my addiction? Apathy will destroy recovery. Make a commitment today to be more involved in GA.

Respectfully,

Vinny B. - Former Trustee, Area 12, New Jersey

---